

Response to Official Action
Dated 20 September 2007
Re: USSN 10/699,598
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REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

The Examiner is thanked for the indication of allowable subject matter.

Claims 1-30 were rejected under 35 USC § 112, second paragraph, as allegedly being unclear.

The Examiner asserts that the limitation "arbitrary encryption key string" in claims 1 and 19 is unclear. With all due respect, the applicant disagrees noting that those skilled in the art doubtlessly that in mathematics, for example, arbitrary normally means "any"; for instance, an arbitrary division of a set or an arbitrary permutation of a sequence. Its use implies generality, that this is not a special case - "you may select any choice possible, and this statement will still hold." A simple example might be "Given an arbitrary integer, multiplying it by two will result in an even number." Moreover, the term is found in the claims of many issued US patents. See, in particular, claims 8, 32, 57, and 84 of U.S. Patent No. 6,859,795.

But given the fact that the word "arbitrary" does not appear to be essential to understanding the scope of the claims and noting that the term might otherwise cause unnecessary confusion and debate as to its meaning, the independent claims have been amended to omit the use of that word altogether.

Reconsideration is respectfully requested.

Withdrawal of the rejection and allowance of the claims are also respectfully requested.

The Commissioner is authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required or credit overpayment to deposit account no. 08-2125. In particular, if this response is not timely filed, then the Commissioner is authorized to treat this response as including a petition to extend the time period pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136 (a) requesting an extension of time of the

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number of months necessary to make this response timely filed and the petition
fee due in connection therewith may be charged to deposit account no. 08-2125.

Respectfully submitted,

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being
transmitted by facsimile transmission to Commissioner for
Patents at 1-571-273-8300 on

16 October 2007
(Date of Transmission)

Valerie Hay
(Name of Person Transmitting)

V. Hay
(Signature)

16 October 2007
(Date)



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